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transmitting the first numbers of the "Canadian Naturalist and Geologist," and desiring exchange. This letter was referred to the Committee on Proceedings.

From Mr. Abraham Sager, dated Ann Harbor, Michigan, 5th May, 1856, transmitting for publication in the Proceedings, a paper, entitled, "Descriptions of Articulata, supposed to be new;" which was referred to a Committee consisting of Drs. Leidy, Hallowell, and Bridges.

Mr. Isaac Lea presented a paper for publication in the Proceedings, entitled, "Descriptions of four New Species of Exotic Uniones;" which was referred to a Committee consisting of Drs. Wilson and Bridges, and Mr. Hanson.

Mr. Charles E. Smith remarked in relation to the specimens of iron ore presented by himself this evening, that the three leading varieties of the ore, known as the Baltimore ore, were shown in the specimens. The bed lies on the west side of Chesapeake Bay, runs parallel with it, and is about fifty miles long. It is of white clay underlying the Eocene deposit. The ore lies in nodules like the brown hæmatite. In the most valuable bed, this ore is associated with large quantities of mineral charcoal, which seems to be always in broken masses. Mr. S. had never seen any traces of plants. There is no other deposit of iron ore in the neighborhood. The iron made from this ore is remarkable for its great strength. Mr. S. considered the deposit as remarkable, being the only one of which he was aware, in which the lithoid carbonate of iron exists out of the coal measures.

May 20th.

Mr. ORD, President, in the Chair.

Dr. Bridges, referring to the specimens of lithoid carbonate of iron exhibited at the last meeting, gave the following as the probable theory of the formation of this ore. Iron pyrites by exposure would be converted into a sulphate of the protoxide with some sesquioxide of iron. By contact with lime these oxides would be precipitated, the protoxide rapidly becoming sesquioxide. The contact of organic matter would reduce the sesquioxide again to protoxide, which would combine with the carbonic acid evolved during the fermentation of the organic matter.

Mr. Cassin announced the arrival in this country and the presence this evening of the Baron Von Müller, who proposes to visit Texas, Mexico, and Central America, and who is desirous of affording to the Academy any aid in his power.

Dr. Leidy remarked that he had just returned from a visit to St. Louis, and thought that the members would be gratified to learn that an "Academy of Science" had been organized in that city, whose objects were similar to our own. The Academy commences under the most promising prospects; and it occupies a highly favorable position in our country for the formation of a cabinet of natural history. It has recently received a large and very valuable collection of fossils, obtained by Dr. F. V. Hayden from the region of the Upper Missouri.

The collection consists of numerous remains of Mammalia and Chelonia from the Mauvaises Terres of Nebraska, a large number of mollusca from the cretaceous beds, and an extensive series of plants from a tertiary formation. Dr. C. A. Pope, with his usual liberality, has granted the Academy the use of a large hall furnished with cases, for the purposes of a museum, in the Medical College. The president of the Academy, than whom none could be more worthy, is Dr. George Engleman. In conclusion, Dr. L. offered in furtherance of the objects of the new Academy the following :

Resolved, That this Academy present to the Academy of Science of St. Louis the second series of the Journal and the Proceedings.

Mr. Lea announced the death of Dr. John C. Warren, of Boston, a Correspondent of the Academy, ætat. 79 years.

Dr. Leidy offered the following resolution which was adopted :

Resolved, That the State Medical Society, shortly to hold its session in this city, be invited to visit the Museum of the Academy on the last Wednesday of this month.

May 27th.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

The Committee on Mr. Durand's paper, read 6th inst., reported in favor of publication in the Journal.

The Committee on Mr. Lea's paper, read 13th inst., reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings.

Description of four New Species of Exotic Uniones.

By ISAAC LEA.

UNIO COLORADOENSIS. Testâ lævi, ellipticâ, inflatâ, valdè inæquilaterali; valvulis crassis; natibus elevatis magnisque; epidermide luteo-castaneâ, obscurè radiatâ et politâ; dentibus cardinalibus magnis, duplicis, acuminatis crenulatisque; lateralibus magnis prælongis, lamellatis subcurvisque; margaritâ purpureâ et iridescente.

Hab. Rio Colorado, Texas. B. W. Budd, M. D.

UNIO NUTTALLIANUS. Testâ lævi, ellipticâ, subinflatâ, inæquilaterali; valvulis tenuibus; natibus prominulis; epidermide olivaceâ, eradiatâ, valdè politâ; dentibus cardinalibus parvis, rectis, compressis crenulatisque; lateralibus subcurtis, subrectis lamellatisque; margaritâ salmonis colore tinctâ et iridescente.

Hab. India. Prof. Thomas Nuttall.

UNIO CAMBODIENSIS. Testâ lævi, ellipticâ, subinflatâ, inæquilaterali; valvulis subtenuibus; natibus prominentibus, ad apicem undulatis; epidermide castaneâ, eradiatâ, politâ; dentibus cardinalibus longis, rectis lamellatisque; lateralibus sublongis, lamellatis subrectisque; margaritâ albâ et iridescente.

Hab. Takrong river at Korat, Cambodia. S. R. House, M. D.

UNIO NEWCOMBIANUS. Testâ corrugato-sulcatâ, rotundatâ, subcompressâ, inæquilaterali; valvulis crassis; natibus elevatis prominentibusque; epidermide tenebroso-olivaceâ, corrugatâ; dentibus cardinalibus submagnis, duplicis subcompressisque; lateralibus subbrevis, crassis subcurvisque; margaritâ albâ.

Hab. Lake Nicaragua. W. Newcomb, M. D.